



Customer No.: 26308

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Rahdert et al Docket No.: 9542.18427-FOR

Serial No.: 10/676,729 Examiner: Stewart, Alvin J

Filed: 1 October 2003 Group Art Unit: 3738

Title: Devices, Systems, and Methods for Retaining a Native Heart Valve Leaflet

AMENDMENT A AND RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed November 14, 2006, for which a shortened response period of one month was set.

An automatic five month extension of time, up to and including May 14, 2007, is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.

Please amend the application as follows:

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